

Fort Morgan
Mobile Point
Gulf Shores vicinity
Baldwin County
Alabama

HABS No. AL-101

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PHOTOCOPIES

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE ALABAMA	COUNTY BALDWIN	TOWN OR VICINITY GULF SHORES VICINITY
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) FORT MORGAN		HABS NO. AL-101
SECONOARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Mobile Point overlooking E to Mobile Bay from Gulf of Mexico, on St. Hwy. 180 (Fort Morgan Parkway), approx. 22 mi. W of junction with U.S. Hwy. 59 in Gulf Shores.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Plan devised 1817; constructed 1819-1834	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) French-born military engineer, Simone Bernard	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Primary fortification at mouth of Mobile Bay and one of major works in 19th c. U.S. coastal defense system. Seized by Confederate forces during Civil War; beseiged and recaptured by U.S. forces Aug. 5-23, 1864; used as training base during Spanish-American War. Reactivated as coastal artillery training post and naval base during World War II.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Regular pentagonal fortification with quadrilateral bastions at each corner, approx. 110 yds. (including bastions) on each side; ten-sided citadel in middle of parade ground.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Rusticated Neo-classical style main gateway with flat-arched portal flanked by Tuscan pilaster carrying full entablature.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Continuous vaulted casements; outer dry moats and glacis pierced by vaulted entrance tunnel.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Heavily damaged during Civil War; citadel razed; Reinforced concrete gun emplacements installed 1895-98; adjacent frame barracks, officers' homes, hospital and other structures built as part of Spanish-American War training base.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE State Historical site and museum.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Barracks originally located in middle of parade ground.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Historic Landmark; listed in the National Register of Historic Places.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Jack Barker, Jr., HABS Historian		DATE June 8, 1983.